

09/189,043



PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Scott M. Rocklage	Examiner:	Michael G. Hartley
Serial No.:	09/189,043	Group Art Unit:	1616
Filing Date:	November 9, 1998	Docket No.:	1897
Title	Method of Perfusion Imaging		

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

The present Amendment cancels claims finally rejected by the Examiner and presents newly drafted claims directed to the same invention. These claims are believed to be free of the §112 defects noted by the Examiner in previous actions, and further define the scope of the invention.

In general these claims call for the administration of a paramagnetic contrast agent to a patient. At least a portion of the body through which the contrast agent passes is subjected to MR imaging, which creates a sequence or series of 2D and/or 3D images. At least two of these images are compared with each other to determine the extent or amount of an occlusion or other abnormality in blood flow. This process may be carried out visually by the physician or it may be done quantitatively by the physician or with a software program.

Kindly cancel the existing claims without prejudice and examine these claims.